



January 10, 2002

*Attorney General John Ashcroft
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530*

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

The suit against Microsoft has dragged for the last three years. The suit has brought a drop in the stock market, an ambiguity in the industry, and challenged governmental budgets at the state and federal levels. All of this has been paid for by either the consumer on Microsoft's side, or the taxpayer on the government's side. In many cases, people end up paying twice! The suit was brought about to benefit American consumers and give them more choices; in reality, the suit has been a burden.

I support the settlement reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice. It addresses the issues very clearly. Microsoft has agreed to disclose information regarding the setup of Microsoft products, and the company must change its licensing agreements with individual computer-makers – even if one of them ships software that would compete with the Windows operating system.

There have been enough financial resources spent on this case. It is vital that this is prevented and the settlement is finalized. The quicker the settlement is confirmed, the faster the industry can get back to focusing on innovation.

Sincerely,

*Tim Broom
President*